MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon

Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. Negotiations -- The Israeli and Lebanese delegations to the 20 January talks in Qiryat Shemona agreed to establish subcommittees on the framework of mutual relations, on security arrangements, and on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, IDF Radio reported shortly after the start of the eighth round of talks. Earlier, during discussions with U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reiterated Israel's opposition to the presence of foreign troops in the proposed security zone in southern Lebanon and also reaffirmed that Israeli-operated warning stations will be established in the security zone for a limited and agreed period, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel did not present its demand for warning stations manned by the IDF as a condition in the security arrangements "just in order to give it up," Shamir stated in an interview with the radio. The temporary Israeli presence in such stations might last either until Israel and Lebanon sign a peace treaty or for "a few years," the foreign minister added.

Earlier, "authoritative political sources" cited by the radio firmly denied a HA'ARETZ report that Israel would accede to the U.S. proposal that the warning stations be manned by Americans instead of Israelis.

Soviet Delegation -- A Soviet delegation arrived in Beirut on a 1-week visit to Lebanon during which it will meet with senior officials, Beirut radio reported.

Monastery Incident -- Gunmen attacked Dayr Har Sharbil Monastery at Al-Jiyah, south of Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that gunmen of Major Sa'd Haddad's militia attacked the monastery during a Phalangist meeting. The radio attributed the incident to rivalry between Haddad and the Phalangists for control of the south.

Syria

In two messages to the president of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general, Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Malim Khaddam drew attention "in advance" to the seriousness of the aggressive statements made recently and repeated by Israeli authorities, Damascus radio reported. Khaddam stressed that Israel has always used such statements and pretexts prior to any aggression against neighboring countries and these statements indicate that Israel intends to carry out "aggressive acts" against Syria, the radio added. Meanwhile, a TISHRIN commentary broadcast by Damascus radio stated that Syria's SAM-5's are purely defensive, whereas Israel possesses offensive weapons which threaten not only Syria but the entire Arab world. Any country has the right to possess defensive weapons if subject to an external threat and all evidence confirms that Syria is threatened by Israel, TISHRIN asserted. Noting U.S. "concern" over Syria's measures to strengthen its antiaircraft defenses, TASS claimed that the U.S. Administration is denying Syria's right to "self-defense."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syrian Position on Arab Committee -- Syria has informed a number of Arab countries that it is rescinding its agreement to the Fes summit resolutions on the Arab peace plan and that it will not participate in the work of the seven-member committee at summit level, KUNA reported citing the Ash-Shariqah paper AL-KHALIJ. The report, which was derived from a senior Arab diplomat, also said the Syrians have refused to participate in the work of the seven-member committee at ministerial level if the committee continues to be headed by Moroccan King Hassan II or Jordanian King Husayn.

Noting that the new Syrian position was recently conveyed to a number of Arab leaders by Foreign Minister Khaddam, the diplomat said the decision means Syria's effective withdrawal from the seven-member committee.

However, a Syrian official cited by Radio Monte Carlo denied the AL-KHALIJ report, stressing that Syria is still committed to the Fes resolutions and to its participation in the seven-member committee.

Committee's London Visit -- A senior Moroccan envoy held talks with British Foreign Office officials in London on the Arab seven-member committee's proposed visit to Britain, London PRESS ASSOCIATION reported. Meanwhile, the Syrian ambassador to Morocco announced that the visit will take place 7-8 February, according to KUNA.

Saudi Call for U.S. Clarification on PLO -- Responding to the State Department announcement that Palestinian representation in future peace talks will be in accordance with the Camp David accords, a 16 January AL-JAZIRAH editorial called on the United States to announce what topics it is willing to discuss with the PLO if the latter recognizes Israel and to stipulate in what capacity it is willing to accept the PLO and initiate a dialogue with it.

PLO Affairs -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat departed Damascus without meeting any Syrian officials and Palestinian-Syrian relations have again reached a crisis point, according to the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT. Diplomatic sources reportedly said Syria is expected to take "retaliatory steps" against Fatah in Syria and Lebanon, the paper noted. While in Damascus, 'Arafat chaired a meeting of military officials and spoke about the status of the Palestinian forces, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The PLO leader also met with the USSR charge d'affaires in Damascus and discussed Palestinian-Soviet relations, the radio also reported.

An 18 January Baghdad Voice of PLO commentary criticized "teachers" who failed to fulfill promises to supply heavy weapons to the PLO during the Beirut battle and who called on the PLO to commit suicide. The commentary stressed that the PLO does not need teachers, but needs "to sense some shame" from those who failed to help them and who are now preparing to drag the PLO into "imagainary battles or empty stands. Meanwhile, an 18 January Amman radio commentary on the Palestinian factions' statement issued in Tripoli, Libya, said Jordan has frequently stressed its "categorical rejection" of any authorization by any side to represent the Palestinian people. Those who met in Tripoli were either ignorant or "deliberately and premeditatively" ignoring Jordan's position.

Afghanistan

"Soviet sources" in Islamabad confirmed that 15 Russians were kidnapped early this month by Afghan resistance fighters at Mazar-e Sharif, AFP reported. In another development Afghan resistance forces killed approximately 50 Soviet soldiers and damaged 13 helicopters during a 15 January raid on Jalalabad airport, according to AFP. Citing the Afghan Islamic press agency, the report added that 100 rebels shelled the airport for 6 hours using mortars and rocket launchers.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 014

20 January 1983

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Rebel Forces Attack Jalalabad Airport 15 Jan [AFP] C 1
'Soviet Sources' Confirm Kidnapping of Advisers [AFP] C 1
Soviet Agriculture Minister, Delegation Arrive C 1
Commerce Minister on Fuel Shortage Measures C 2
Oil Products 'Hoarders' Arrested in Kabul C 2

INDIA

19 Jan West Bengal Clashes Result in 1 Death [AFP] E 1
Assam 'Overall' Situation Reported 'Peaceful' E 1
Sikh Leader Warns of 'Turmoil' Over Autonomy [AFP] E 2
Gandhi: Government Will Not Yield to Threats E 2

PAKISTAN

Spokesman Describes Talks With Indian Minister F 1

IRAN

Closure of TASS Office in Tehran Reported [TAP] I 1
Musavi on Saddam Husayn Trip, Gulf Security I 1
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 1,188 I 1
Montazeri Addresses Voice, Vision Employees I 2
Sane'i on Pamphlets, 'Counterrevolutionaries' I 4
Prime Minister Discusses Budget Issues 16 Jan I 4
Cabinet Approves Draft Budget for 1983-84 I 6
NVOI Says Kurdish Solution 'Must Be Pursued' I 6

REBEL FORCES ATTACK JALALABAD AIRPORT 15 JAN

BK191600 Hong Kong AFP in English 1554 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 19 (AFP) -- Afghan resistance forces killed about 50 Soviet soldiers and damaged 13 helicopters in a raid on Jalalabad Airport, in the east of the country, on Saturday night, it was reported here today.

The pro-resistance Afghan Islamic press agency said that 100 rebels grouped in five units shelled the airport for six hours with 83-mm mortars and rocket launchers. The agency said five tanker trucks, a radar unit and a hangar were also destroyed in the raid.

Travellers from Jalalabad had already reported a first raid on the town's airport on the night of December 21. The reports said that airport employees had helped the rebels enter the restricted area. Varying accounts reported between three to ten helicopters out of action.

Jalalabad is one of 12 Afghan airports where Western military analysts believe the Soviets keep permanent squadrons of armoured MI-24 and MI-25 helicopter gunships.

Two resistance leaders operating in the Jalalabad region said while on a recent trip to Peshawar, just across the border in Pakistan, that they were concentrating efforts on Soviet strategic and economic targets such as airports, convoys or arms dumps, rather than "wasting men, time and material" to harass Soviet positions around the provinces.

'SOVIET SOURCES' CONFIRM KIDNAPPING OF ADVISERS

BK191606 Hong Kong AFP in English 1600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 19 (AFP) -- Soviet sources confirmed here today that some 15 Russians were kidnapped earlier this month by Afghani resistance fighters at Mazar-e Sharif in northern Afghanistan.

A source close to the Soviet Embassy in Pakistan said those abducted were working as technicians in a flour mill south of the town.

Observers said it was the largest group of Soviets captured by the rebels since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan more than three years ago.

Two resistance groups have separately claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, first reported by Western diplomatic sources here last week. No word has been given on what has happened to the Soviets.

SOVIET AGRICULTURE MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE

LD192025 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Valentin Karpovich Mesyats, CPSU Central Committee member and USSR agriculture minister, today arrived in Kabul at the head of a delegation at the invitation of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society for an official and friendly visit.

Abdol Majid Serboland, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, members of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization, representatives of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Protocol Department, and the USSR ambassador in Kabul were present at Kabul Airport to welcome the delegation.

The delegation is due to take part in commemorating Afghan-USSR friendship days and friendship days with [word indistinct] of the USSR, which is due to be held in Kabul.

COMMERCE MINISTER ON FUEL SHORTAGE MEASURES

LD200714 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Kabul, Jan 18, BAKHTAR -- Mohammed Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce of the DRA, gave an interview to HAQIQATE-ENQELAB-E SAWR in connection with the temporary shortage of petroleum products in Kabul City.

The minister said that serious measures are being taken for the provision of adequate quantity of petroleum products, petrol and diesel, to meet the needs of Kabul citizens including the small and large-scale private and state [words indistinct] transport and agricultural organizations.

The government, he added, is providing incentives to those who are engaged in the transport of oil products. The number of oil tankers will be increased two-fold and three hundred (?chassis) of Tatra heavy duty vehicles which were [word indistinct] from Czechoslovakia have arrived in Kabul and will be soon put into operation.

In addition to the distribution from gasoline stations the distribution of oil products by mobile tankers will also be soon started. Jalalar added that in addition to the distribution of oil products, liquid gas imported from the Soviet Union, has also been distributed since two months. [Words indistinct] that under the barter agreement between the DRA and the Soviet Union a large quantity of petroleum products such as petrol, diesel, kerosene and other oil products will be imported from the Soviet Union in [year indistinct]. The amount will be 25 percent [word indistinct].

Those who are engaged in speculating the oil products will be caught and punished [words indistinct].

OIL PRODUCTS 'HOARDERS' ARRESTED IN KABUL

LD191818 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Everyone knows that as a result of the activities of counterrevolutionary elements and the mercenaries of imperialism -- headed by U.S. imperialism -- a series of problems have been created, namely, shortages of fuel, electric energy, and primary consumer goods for the people in Kabul.

One fact is clear: Since the counterrevolutionaries are taking their last breath, being condemned to resolute defeat, they do not hesitate to destroy even the means that maintain the peaceful life of the people. They embark on every conspiracy and crime. Destroying electricity pylons, preventing the transport of materials, and hoarding foodstuffs and oil materials are only a few examples of the thousands of inhuman and foul actions which the counterrevolutionaries carry out. To receive dollars and kaldars [Pakistani currency] to maintain their disgraceful life, to provide ludicrous reports to their imperialist centers, and to receive money and food to live in luxury for a few days from their imperialist masters, these mercenaries embark on crime at the instruction of imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism.

The party, government, and social organizations of the Kabul City wards have reported information concerning the hoarding of oil products and foodstuffs by these mercenaries and traitors to the interests of the people.

Yesterday, the official in charge of security in Kabul's 11th Ward arrested two hoarders of oil products who had reserved a sufficient quantity in one (?area) of (Kahyr Khana Mena). The two hoarders, (Mohammad Amir), son of (Mohammad Amin), and (Mohammad Khan), son of (Jora), were inhabitants of Char Qala-e Wazirabad. The hoarded material has been handed over to officials and the incident is under investigation.

According to another report, (Emam 'Ali), (Nur Mohammad), and ('Abdorrahman), who were selling kerosene at 140-150 Afghani per gallon, were captured in two city wards by officials on duty.

A spokesman for the Kabul City party committee said the government has taken necessary measures to eliminate the problems that have emerged from the shortage of oil products. Only today, some 615,000 liters of oil were distributed to those in need. This amount is double that normally used by the citizens daily. The spokesman added that to further facilitate the distribution of oil products, more mobile oil tankers were being added to those already distributing oil to the people in 11 wards of Kabul.

According to a spokesman of the Kabul City committee, some 1.4 million liters of oil were imported today in Kabul and the shortage problem will be eliminated at the earliest opportunity.

19 JAN WEST BENGAL CLASHES RESULT IN 1 DEATH

BK191731 Hong Kong AFP in English 1724 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Jan. 19 (AFP) -- Renewed clashes between rival groups of workers in the strike-bound coal industry left one dead and an unknown number of others injured at Asansol, a colliery town in the West Bengal State today, it was reported.

One person died in a similar violence elsewhere earlier since the 72-hour work stoppage by over 640,000 workers in the industry started Sunday midnight demanding better wagescales and working conditions. The strike is jointly called by opposition controlled trade unions.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted S.R. Jain, chairman of the state-run Coal India Limited (CIL), as saying to reporters in Calcutta that today's violence took place when pro-strikers opened fire and hurled bombs at a group of loyal workers. He maintained the strike call had proved a flop, saying that the collieries were working near-normal. The strike ends early morning tomorrow.

Four people were injured in similar clashes between rival groups of workers yesterday outside the Coal India Limited offices in Calcutta.

Meanwhile, Kamrup township and neighbouring areas in Assam State were placed under an indefinite curfew this evening following mob violence, in which one person was seriously injured when police fired to quell the violence, a separate PTI dispatch said.

Officials in Gauhati, capital of the northeastern state on the border with Bangladesh, were quoted as saying that the incidents took place when a mob attacked a convoy of police officials. Police reinforcements have been rushed to the township for "effective" enforcement of the curfew regulations, PTI said.

Elsewhere, in northern Assam, officially suspected sabotage caused derailment of the engine of a New Delhi-bound express train. But no one was hurt.

These incidents came in the wake of a 35-hour general strike called through Assam by the leadership of the nearly four-year old mass stir in protest against the decision of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's federal government to conduct state elections in Assam ignoring their opposition.

The protestors, against an estimated five million "illegal" Bangladesh and Nepalese settlers in the state, took the stand that any such fresh polls be held only after a solution was found to the problem of foreigners.

ASSAM 'OVERALL' SITUATION REPORTED 'PEACEFUL'

BK200912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] In Assam, the overall situation throughout the state is by and large peaceful except for a few cases of arson reported from some places. Chief Secretary Ramesh Chandra told our Gauhati correspondent that the situation in curfew-bound Kampur town in Nowgong District is under control. He said the curfew was clamped there last night following a mob attack on the deputy commissioner, the superintendent of police, and the police party which went to the town. Police fired three rounds to disperse the crowd. One person was injured and was admitted to the hospital. Some miscreants also set fire to the office building of the Assam State Housing Board at Chandmari in Gauhati last night, causing damage to office records.

SIKH LEADER WARNS OF 'TURMOIL' OVER AUTONOMY

OW192228 Paris AFP in English 2007 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] New Delhi, Jan. 19 (AFP) -- The leader of Sikh autonomy movement in Punjab today warned the federal government that there would be "turmoil" in the border state with Pakistan unless their demands were met before their January 26 deadline.

Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, chairman of the Akali Dal Party, asked Punjabis to be ready for a "prolonged struggle" if necessary to achieve autonomy, the Press Trust of India said.

The latest talks, at the initiative of Premier Indira Gandhi's government, ended inconclusively in the state capital of Chandigarh Tuesday.

The Akali Dal believes in a peaceful campaign, but will be unable to prevent the people from expressing their resentment if the government fails to concede to their demands," Mr. Longowal said.

Meanwhile, more than [number indistinct] people were arrested in Amritsar today, the [words indistinct] almost daily demonstrations in the city, which is a stronghold of Sikh autonomists.

GANDHI: GOVERNMENT WILL NOT YIELD TO THREATS

BK191619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The prime minister has deplored the tendency to seek redress of grievances by threatening the administration. Talking to a group of over 100 representatives of Sikhs in New Delhi today, Mrs Gandhi said such an attitude should be given up in the interest of the country. On its part, the government will not yeild to threats and coercion.

She said the government is trying to solve the problems of various sections of the society. She believes in solving problems in a cordial atmosphere and through negotiations.

The prime minister said in a democracy different political parties exist, but the popular party is the one which works in overcoming internal problems and enhances the nation's prestige abroad. She said a community can be strong only when the nation is strong.

Mrs Gandhi made it clear that we want to be strong not to threaten anyone but only to solve our own problems. A strong India poses no threat to any third country.

Among others who spoke on the occasion were Irrigation Minister Kedra Pandey and Asrar Ahmad, member of parliament.

SPOKESMAN DESCRIBES TALKS WITH INDIAN MINISTER

BK191638 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Pakistan and India have expressed, in principle, their willingness to set up three subcommissions under the joint commission to increase bilateral cooperation in areas already identified.

An official spokesman in Islamabad said in a statement that an agreement in this respect was reached during the current visit of Natwar Singh, secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry. He held three rounds of talks with Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik. The three subcommissions will further review the specific issues. The first meeting of the joint commission will take place in Islamabad.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan extended an invitation to Indian External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao to visit Pakistan.

The spokesman said during the talks it was felt that there are many common elements in the Pakistani draft of a nonaggression pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation. It also was agreed that the series of talks should continue to narrow the differences in the two drafts so a mutually acceptable draft can be prepared.

The official spokesman said it was agreed that both nations will work together to make the nonaligned summit conference a success. The political and economic problems facing the nonaligned nations need to be considered at length during the summit conference.

The official spokesman said that while reviewing bilateral matters, more lists of prisoners held in each country were exchanged and modalities and procedures were also discussed to expedite the processes of their identification, determination of their nationality, and immediate release at the end of their terms of imprisonment. The exchange of information and knowledge in this regard will be completed by 1 March. Pakistan offered the privilege to Indian pilgrims to come to the holy place of (Qartas Raj) in Jhelum District every year.

While talking to newsmen at Islamabad Airport prior to his departure for Karachi, Natwar Singh said he did not have any disagreement with the Pakistani official spokesman's statement. In reply to a question, he said the bilateral talks have revealed that they share identical views on a number of issues which are expected to be discussed at the nonaligned summit conference.

In reply to a question about Afghanistan, he said he had indepth and useful discussions on this issue in Islamabad. He added that during the summit conference, a possible agreement on the Afghanistan problem would have to be reached keeping in mind that Afghanistan's nonaligned status should remain unaffected and also that the hands of the UN secretary general should be strengthened in seeking a political solution to the problem.

In reply to another question, Natwar Singh said the next round of talks on the no-war pact and the treaty for peace, friendship, and cooperation will be held some time after the nonaligned summit conference.

CLOSURE OF TASS OFFICE IN TEHRAN REPORTED

LD191645 Tunis TAP in English 1437 GMT 19 Jan 83

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tehran, Jan 19 (TAP) -- The TASS agency office in Tehran has been closed following the Iranian authorities' decision not to renew the visa of the Soviet correspondent, reported Wednesday a sure source in the Iranian capital.

This decision of the Ministry of the Islamic Orientation was taken following the broadcast by this agency of an article from Tehran questioning thus the Iranian authorities for the incidents which occurred December 27 in front of Tehran's Soviet Embassy. Afghan refugees had tried to penetrate into the embassy and had destroyed a Soviet flag which they had seized.

"This anti-Soviet action took place with the Iranian authorities' evident complaisance, had notably written the TASS agency. [as received]

MUSAVI ON SADDAM HUSAYN TRIP, GULF SECURITY

LD192154 Tehran IRNA in English 1929 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 19, IRNA -- Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said today that Saddam's trip to Riyadh Tuesday was due to his fear of the Iranian Islamic combatants' inflicting final blows to him, and it was natural for Saddam and the rest of his clique to engage in such regional-trotting intended to instill fear.

Prime Minister Musavi added that the only thing which could defuse all those plots was the iron will of the Iranian nation, which has disappointed all its adversaries. He said, as the Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani had previously pointed out, superpowers all depended on the Persian Gulf's security, which is vital to their economic concerns. He also said that the Persian Gulf's security was in the hands of the Iranians. The prime minister also said he hoped the reactionary regimes were not foolish enough to disrupt this security.

Musavi called countries of the Persian Gulf to heed this logical admonition of Iran and refrain from such provocative trips and propaganda against the Islamic Revolution.

In conclusion, Musavi said that all the superpowers put their interests above and before those of Persian Gulf countries and these countries should not rush blindly to their destruction, in the interests of imperialism and Zionism.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 1,188

LD191724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Communique No 1,188 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, the combatants of Islam carried out several operations, opening fire on enemy positions, servicemen, and armored equipment. Effective blows were dealt the Saddamist forces on every front.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zones, exchanges of heavy weapons fire continued. Our combative units, by opening artillery and mortar fire on Saddamist troop concentrations, destroyed one antiaircraft gun, one ammunition dump, and five trenches, killing a number of servicemen.

In the (Zubaydat) and Faqih areas, exchanges of fire were more intense. Our forces' fire on enemy vehicles to the south of (Zubaydat) stopped Iraqi troop movement; losses were inflicted. Our patrol groups, by penetrating enemy positions, seized several weapons.

The criminal Saddamist forces again yesterday shelled residential areas of Abadan by long-range weapons fire; six houses and shops were destroyed.

On the western fronts, our combatants continued their activities by pounding the enemy's positions and trenches. One tank and two vehicles carrying Iraqi servicemen were set on fire.

In the Qasr-e Shirin area, exchanges of fire continued periodically. A number of enemy patrols were forced to flee the area by our forces' fire.

In the past 24 hours, enemy's air attacks on several border cities were confronted by fire from our air defense units. The intruding aircraft were forced to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MONTAZERI ADDRESSES VOICE, VISION EMPLOYEES

GF180757 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri speech to Voice and Vision of Iran employees in Esfahan on 16 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As you see, in the past years since the revolution in our country, we have shouted many slogans and there have been many slogans [word indistinct]. However, slogans should be a precursor to work and intensive activity. A country cannot be run on slogans alone. [Words indistinct] a person should worship God wherever he is and should serve his country good-naturedly.

You know that after the revolution, salaries have decreased instead of increasing. Expenses have risen and income has diminished. Prices have gone up and so have expectations. Therefore, it is not very sensible for anyone to want to work in an organization for the money. There is no remuneration. Wages given to one employee barely cover the monthly rent. This is it, and he has to meet these huge expenses.

However, if he is inspired with divine love and is a selfless person who can serve even one corner of the nation, think how useful he will be. This is the dedication and sincerity that these children have at the fronts, children of 16 to 17 years, 15 to 17 years, and with the dire conditions at the fronts they work selflessly and give their blood on the path of Islam. This is the sincerity which increases our obligation. And you dear young people, God forbid that you and I should fight on the gains obtained as a result of their sincerity, their safeguarding the revolution and driving the enemy out of the country.

It would be the height of misfortune that instead of serving Islam with the hope of achieving divine favor, we should, God forbid, envisage other objectives, group-mongering, for instance. I don't know power lust, when I am not the type to shirk those responsibilities. [as heard] I often think of that position, that status for which people squabble, as sheer folly, that people should only work for the sake of achieving status.

For one who is the boss, the responsibility is immense, his job is more difficult and he is greatly involved. If he wants to discharge his duties, there is no morning or night, because work makes responsibilities heavier. This has no importance. If one person goes ahead of you and he is discharging his duties, you should not be unhappy that he has gone ahead. You should be happy. Praise be to God that he is carrying out his duties and my responsibility has decreased. For example, some obligations are incumbent but others can be performed on one's behalf.

Being the head or the boss means greater responsibilities and heavier duties. You, wherever you may be, should work for God, not to achieve a higher position, not to support your own group or your friend or your party. You should work and act to meet the the needs and shortages of your Islamic country. The (?duties) that you have are very important. You are [words indistinct] that which makes you a man is [words indistinct].

Today, radio and television are factors that mold the future society. The people who listen to the radio and watch television are the men and women of tomorrow and you are (?responsible) for them. Be vigilant about what matters you portray on radio and television. If you make a film, see what it is in case it may have an (?objectionable) aspect. Try to make good quality films. It is really (?nice) that the taste of Iranians is far above that of foreigners, but it is unfortunate that in foreign countries they make children's films that have to be dubbed for our children.

You should stand on your own feet, be independent. The East and West are not for your benefit. The East and West only want to rule over you. You are human.

Iran has no shortages; Islam has no deficiency. Iranian taste and thought are far superior to that of foreigners. It is only that they have (?suppressed) us. In the universities, curriculum has been such that our thoughts are tailored to think in terms of East and West. If you make films which make the children aware of being Muslim, pious, full of self-confidence, and having faith in God, this is the real service you can render to society.

This is the (?kind) of thinking for the culture of society, which is in your hands, the officials of radio and television. Therefore, your job is a very important job. The economics of society is not in your hands, it is the culture that is in your hands. However, indirectly, the economics of society is in your hands because you can teach the people to strive in the economic sphere and to attain self-sufficiency. In this way, everything that belongs to the nation is in your hands. God willing, He may give us the capacity to serve Islam, the nation, and the revolution.

I beseech God that all those who work for the nation, for the revolution should be rewarded. [chants of amen] O God, please help us to refrain from the wrong path and to tread the path of true Islam. [chants of amen] May God grant the Muslim combatants in Iran and Afghan [as heard] and [word indistinct]. [chants of amen] May our martyrs join the martyrs of Kerbala. [chants of amen] O God please safeguard our revolution, our leader of the revolution. [chants of amen] God willing, you may all be successful and may God help you. Only remember the words that if in the face of all this squabbling of the people and their expectations, and with the poor recompense, if we do not have sincerity, we are lost. God willing.

SANE'I ON PAMPHLETS, 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

LD181830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Prosecutor General Sane'i took part in an interview with our reporter this morning, in which he praised the past activities of the members of the Supreme Judicial Council. He also expressed his hope that, following the imam's recent decree and the recent changes, this council will be able to increase its activities.

Concerning the publication of some booklets and pamphlets for ideological testing, the prosecutor general said: Our former laws defined no punishment for such activities. Therefore, in accordance with the Constitution, if someone was found guilty in this respect the punishment should be decided in accordance with religious laws. The prosecutor general continued: The publication and distribution of such pamphlets are an offense and here I announce to all those who have been engaged in the publication and distribution of such booklets that they should personally destroy them.

Concerning the application of uniform judicial practice in all the courts throughout the country, Mr Sane'i said: One should not expect the laws governing the revolution courts and prosecutor's offices to be made identical to the laws governing civil courts so soon, because the laws governing revolution courts and tribunals have been in accordance with religious laws and revolutionary principles. God willing, in the long term, this uniformity of practice will come about.

The prosecutor general added: Counterrevolutionaries should know that revolution courts will deal with them decisively. After the imam's decree, the activities of all revolutionary forces will be concentrated against counterrevolutionaries.

At the end of this interview, concerning the difficulties of the judiciary, he said: The most basic difficulty that the Supreme Judicial Council faces at the moment is the shortage of assistant judges, prosecutors, and judges who are familiar with Islamic principles.

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES BUDGET ISSUES 16 JAN

LD161426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi interview following 16 January Cabinet session in Tehran -- live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Musavi, regarding the budget for 21 March 1983 through 20 March 1984, could you tell us about this budget's priorities and the general policy governing the calculation of next year's budget and possibly the peripheral reports raised in today's Cabinet session?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In connection with the budget, I would like to talk only about a particular problem, which could also explain the government's policy to some extent. The problem is that our executive establishments have become more capable and efficient and naturally they want to obtain a greater budget, to have a greater budget allocated to them. The work done this year, in the current year, shows the honesty of all the country's executive systems. On the other hand, the income is limited to that amount known to us. Our biggest problem is for us to work out an anti-inflation budget without any deficit or with only a small deficit so that we can seriously combat inflation. This is the most important issue facing us now. Of course, priorities we had last year still exist. We are moving toward investment in deprived regions, in agriculture and in industry, and this shows the same consistent policy that the government is continuing from the past and this line is quite prominent in this budget.

[Question] Concerning the type of activities and plans, which economic activities are the main focus on next year's budget?

[Answer] In the 5-year plan, it has been stipulated many times that agriculture has been chosen as an axis. In this budget too, emphasis has been placed on agriculture. Generally speaking, there will be a main trend in that direction. Even in the industrial sector, there will be a gentle turn toward agriculture. In the future, our industries will even move that way in order to be in the service of agriculture.

[Question] The country's 5-year plan will begin next year. Regarding the budget's [word indistinct] from the viewpoint of current expenditure, could you tell us by what percentage the priority given to development programs has been increased compared to last year, or whether more attention will be paid to them?

[Answer] Since we are now busy discussing the budget provisions and since the issue of incomes and expenditures has not been finalized yet, and we are going to continue this discussion until [word indistinct] wish to refrain from mentioning the percentage here. However, I would say that the government naturally gives priority to development programs, land investment [word indistinct] and reducing current expenditure. However, our society's needs have so far greatly limited the government in this connection. In last year's budget and the current year's budgets, and moreover in the 5-year and 20-year plans, we must study the government's main tendency, that is, we must act [words indistinct].

[Question] Regarding the sources of income for the government, what kind of trend is there to increase the share of nonoil commodities and agricultural produce for improving the sources?

[Answer] Naturally, in this year's budget, oil has its place and the issue of taxes has been given more consideration. There is now discussion about obtaining income from nonoil sources, including industrial products. In connection with luxury and consumer goods in society, there has been some discussion as to whether they can be exploited. These are all issues under discussion and debate.

[Question] As my last question, in connection with events in the region, could you assess the visits paid by officials of the reactionary states in the region and also Tariq 'Aziz' visit last week to France and his meeting with French officials to gain support and also his meeting with Rajavi, and assess their connection with events in the region?

[Answer] All these moves show the importance of Saddam's regime to the superpowers. We are witnessing a comprehensive and continuous move from the East and the West to preserve and guard Saddam's regime. I think Tariq 'Aziz' meeting with Mas'ud Rajavi should not be considered separately from the remarks made by him and by other officials of Saddam's regime concerning Israel. They show the alliance of world arrogance and their agents to save and guard this regime in any way possible. At the same time they show their fear. We have evidence to prove this.

CABINET APPROVES DRAFT BUDGET FOR 1983-84

LD191221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Our correspondent reports that the Cabinet held a session this morning chaired by Prime Minister Musavi and attended by President Khamene'i. The 1983-84 draft budget was discussed and approved.

Following the session, Prime Minister Musavi was interviewed about Saddam's trip to Saudi Arabia. He said: The developments and comings and goings in this region are a result of the crushing blows being dealt by the combatants of Islam to the feeble Ba'thist Saddamist regime. As the Majlis speaker already has said, the lives of most oppressive regimes depend on the Persian Gulf. [as heard] He added: The reactionary regimes in the region should be aware that it is to their advantage to accept the truth. They cannot benefit from supporting decadent Zionism or imperialism.

Following today's Cabinet session, our correspondent interviewed the prime minister on the issues discussed at today's session.

[Begin recording] [Question] Following discussion and approval of the draft 1983-84 budget, what is the [word indistinct] regarding regional and [word indistinct] planning?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The last part of the draft budget was approved today. All revenue and expenditure were approved. [passage indistinct] We have allocated about 120 billion tumans for overall development. Total current expenditure is 197 billion tumans; the war budget is 35 billion tumans. Another issue that has been given priority is the war immigrants and war damage. Ten billion tumans have been allocated for the reconstruction of war zones. Revenue will be 285 billion tumans. The budget deficit is slated to be 25 billion tumans which is much less than last year. [end recording]

NVOI SAYS KURDISH SOLUTION 'MUST BE PURSUED'

TA191928 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriot: One of our country's problems is the issue of Kordestan where war and fratricide continue. As we are aware, on 17 November 1979, Imam Khomeyni, in a historic message presented certain guidelines regarding the problem of Kordestan, which could have formed a basis and foundation for resolving problems, including national demands in our multinational country. The late Ayatollah Taleqani, who visited this region on behalf of Imam Khomeyni to seek a real solution to the problem of Kordestan, after the visit also presented a proposal in this connection to the responsible authorities.

Unfortunately, however, these guidelines and proposals were not acted upon and a specific wing of responsible individuals, whether in government and security positions or in institutions, pursued an anti-Kurdish policy.

The opponents of the Islamic Republic and elements who had changed color created the situation we are now witnessing by exploiting this mentality of some of the officials and by taking advantage of the problems of the people of Kordestan. Extreme elements and dependent groups in Kordestan also fanned war and fratricide and actually poured grist into the mill of the enemies, foremost of all the imperialists.

It should be said that without doubt an ethnic problem exists in our country and it should not and cannot be ignored. Our country's experience over the past several decades has shown that one cannot long silence by force, imposition, arms, and suppression a people who demand their indisputable rights. Any effort to impose the views, demands, and wishes of one people or another, or on other peoples, is a national injustice. By pursuing national injustice, one can never secure the real and voluntary unity of peoples within the confines of a multinational country. Mutual respect for ethnic and national characteristics, whether from the viewpoint of religion, language, or customs and traditions and culture, is the first condition for cooperation and unity in a multinational country, such as our homeland, Iran.

History shows that various kinds of discriminatory policies have been pursued in Kordestan in the past, but calm was not established there. Therefore, the solution is the implementation in a serious and practical way of Imam Khomeyni's message regarding Kordestan. The policy of absorption and attraction, that is, the handing over of self-rule or administrative and cultural autonomy to the Kurdish people must be pursued.

We are all aware that forces dependent on imperialism in Kordestan have used the ethnic problem as a pretext for achieving their sinister and counterrevolutionary aims. These forces must be crushed, but on the other hand one should trust the Kurdish people without the slightest deviation. The culture, religion, traditions, customs, and language of the Kurdish people must be respected and one should not allow the policy of hegemonism, which during the past era was pursued by despotic and tyrannical governments in Kordestan, to become dominant. The Kurdish people must be given the permission and possibility to enjoy their indisputable and national rights within the framework of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is only thus that one can maintain lasting peace based on the voluntary unity and friendship of all the peoples residing in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hand in hand, with all the Iranian people, the Kurdish people took part in the popular, anti-imperialist, andanti-despotic revolution, and made sacrifices for its victory. As were all the Iranian people, the Kurdish people too were hopeful regarding the revolution and had and continue to have certain expectations from the revolution. Unfortunately, the Provisional Government, under the influence of certain elements such as the Sabaghians and the defense minister of the time and Aryamehri officers who had power in that period, and later Bani-Sadr and his colleagues and followers, in accordance with a U.S. plan prevented the realization of the just and legitimate demands of the people of Kordestan. They initiated war and fratricide which has continued up to this day.

War and fratricide cannot be a solution to the urgent and vital problems of a country. Experience as well has proven this. Without doubt the imam's guidelines must be implemented in Kordestan. To realize the legitimate demands of the people of Kordestan in connection with self-rule or autonomy within the framework of the Islamic Republic of Iaan, the first condition is the maintenance of national unity. Speedy and practical measures must be carried out toward this end.